

September Production Forecast Second Highest on Record for US Corn and Soybeans

August brought a relief from July's hot, dry conditions. Wisconsin's August temperatures were nearly average with daily mercury levels departing only a few degrees above or below normal for most of the month. August rains refueled dry soils, and improved crop conditions in the north and western regions of the state, though these areas continued to show signs of dry-weather stress. Along with rain, the sometimes-powerful storms brought hail damage to some West Central areas. Crop progress slowed and conditions deteriorated in the East Central region of Wisconsin, as it was missed by the heaviest rains. Soil moisture conditions there declined from July. Crop conditions in the southern portion of the state, where the majority of corn and soybeans are grown, remain very good with progress well above normal and last year. These factors contributed to an increase in forecasted corn and soybean yields in Wisconsin as of September 1st.

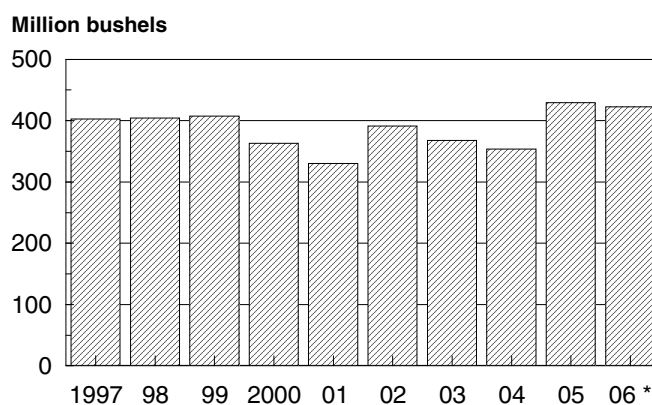
Wisconsin's corn yield forecast is up 2.0 bushels from August to 151 bushels per acre. If realized, this would beat last year's record yield by 3.0 bushels. Total production is expected to be 423 million bushels, 2 percent below last year due to a 100,000-acre reduction in harvested acres. Northern Wisconsin is expected to have fewer acres harvested for grain due to poor pollination and dry weather.

Nationally, corn production is expected to be 11.1 billion bushels, up 1.69 million bushels from 2005. Yields are expected to average 154.7 bushels per acre. If realized, both yield and production would be the second highest on record, behind 2004. Moderate to heavy rains improved soil moisture and crop conditions, raising expected yields, across the western Corn Belt and northern Plains states. Expected yields across the eastern Corn Belt were unchanged.

Wisconsin's forecast for soybeans is 42 bushels per acre, 2 bushels below the average yield in 2005. Production is expected to total 68.0 million bushels, 2 percent below last year. Farmers rated soybean condition as 66 percent good to excellent as of the end of August, a 12 point increase from the end of July. Some soybean fields were being stressed from white mold, spider mites and weed pressure. Crop development progress continued to be ahead of the 5-year average.

National soybean production is projected to reach 3.09 billion bushels, up 6.54 million bushels from 2005. If realized, this will be the second highest production. Yields are expected to average 41.8 bushels per acre, up 2.2 bushels from August, but 1.5 bushels below last year's record yield. Higher yields were forecast across the Corn Belt, and northern and central Plains states due to improved moisture and crop conditions. With the exception of South Carolina, yields were down or unchanged from August 1 in the Gulf and Atlantic Coast states.

WISCONSIN CORN FOR GRAIN PRODUCTION



*September 1, 2006 forecast.

CROP SUMMARY, 2004-05 and Forecasted September 1, 2006

Crop	Harvested acres (thousands)			Unit	Yield per acre			Production (thousands)			Pro- duction % change 2006/05
	2004	2005	2006		2004	2005	2006	2004	2005	2006	
	WISCONSIN										
Corn for grain	2,600	2,900	2,800	Bu.	136.0	148.0	151.0	353,600	429,200	422,800	-1
Soybeans for beans	1,550	1,580	1,620	Bu.	34.5	44.0	42.0	53,475	69,520	68,040	-2
Hay, all (dry only)	2,050	2,050	2,150	Ton	2.38	2.18	2.24	4,880	4,470	4,825	+8
Alfalfa, (dry only)	1,600	1,550	1,650	Ton	2.60	2.40	2.50	4,160	3,720	4,125	+11
All other, (dry only)	450	500	500	Ton	1.60	1.50	1.40	720	750	700	-7
Oats	210	215	250	Bu.	65.0	64.0	65.0	13,650	13,760	16,250	+18
Winter wheat	225	175	235	Bu.	56.0	57.0	72.0	12,600	9,975	16,920	+70
Potatoes (fall)	70.0	68.0	66.0	Cwt.	435	410	4/	30,450	27,880	4/	-
Dry edible beans	4.9	5.7	5.6	Cwt.	23.10	22.50	21.00	113	128	118	-8
Cranberries	17.4	17.4	3/	Bbl.	189.7	210.3	3/	3,300	3,660	3,750	+2
Apples (commercial) 2/	6.0	5.8	3/	Lb.	9,500	8,970	3/	57,000	52,000	62,000	+19
Maple syrup	--	--	--	Gal.	--	--	--	100	50	100	+100
	UNITED STATES										
Corn for grain	73,631	75,107	71,841	Bu.	160.4	147.9	154.7	11,807,086	11,112,072	11,113,766	n.c.
Soybeans for beans	73,958	71,361	73,935	Bu.	42.2	43.3	41.8	3,123,686	3,086,432	3,092,970	n.c.
Hay, all (dry only)	61,966	61,649	62,697	Ton	2.55	2.44	2.27	158,247	150,590	142,326	-5
Alfalfa, (dry only)	21,707	22,389	22,407	Ton	3.48	3.38	3.18	75,481	75,771	71,205	-6
All other, (dry only)	40,259	39,260	40,290	Ton	2.06	1.91	1.77	82,766	74,819	71,121	-5
Oats	1,787	1,823	1,907	Bu.	64.7	63.0	56.3	115,695	114,878	107,423	-6
Barley	4,021	3,269	2,990	Bu.	69.6	64.8	61.2	279,743	211,896	182,972	-14
Winter wheat	34,462	33,794	31,108	Bu.	43.5	44.4	41.2	1,499,434	1,499,129	1,283,134	-14
Spring wheat 1/	13,174	13,609	14,154	Bu.	43.2	37.1	32.7	568,918	504,456	463,511	-8
Potatoes (fall)	1,022.3	949.0	974.4	Cwt.	401	403	4/	410,253	382,743	4/	-
Dry edible beans	1,219.3	1,568.6	1,519.0	Cwt.	14.59	17.44	15.34	17,788	27,350	23,301	-15
Apples (commercial) 2/	384.5	378.9	3/	Lb.	27,200	26,000	3/	10,440,600	9,864,900	9,619,700	-2
Cranberries	39.2	39.1	3/	Bbl.	157.5	159.7	3/	6,175	6,243	6,635	+6
Maple syrup	-	-	-	Gal.	-	-	-	1,507	1,242	1,449	+17

1/Spring wheat other than durum. 2/Bearing acreage. 3/Released January 2006. 4/Release November 9, 2006. Source: USDA, NASS, Wisconsin Field Office.